

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-11 SAJ-01 /074 W  
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R 221140Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1890

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, GE

SUBJECT: SCHUETZ SAYS SENAT WILL SEEK MODEST  
IMPROVEMENTS IN VISITS ARRANGEMENT

REF: A) 75 USBERLIN 2470, B) 75 BONN 19867,  
C) 75 STATE 290497

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ INDICATED AT ANNUAL  
BEGINNING-OF-YEAR PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 19 THAT  
SENAT BELIEVES VISITS ARRANGEMENT WITH GDR IS WORKING  
WELL BUT THAT SENAT WILL SEE IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO  
GET MODEST IMPROVEMENTS. SENAT HAS CONFIRMED TO ALLIES  
THAT IT INTENDS TO BROACH FOR TIME BEING ONLY LIMITED  
NUMBER OF RELATIVELY TECHNICAL AND NON-CONTROVERSIAL  
IMPROVEMENTS AND THAT IT WILL REJECT ANY GDR EFFORTS TO  
POLITICIZE SUBJECT UNDULY AND IN PARTICULAR TO MAKE  
LINKS TO OTHER MATTERS SUCH AS S-BAHN SUBSIDY. END SUMMARY:

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2. GOVERNING MAYOR TOLD REPORTERS THAT "DESPITE THE

PREDOMINANTLY TROUBLE FREE OPERATION OF THE TRAVEL AND VISITS ARRANGEMENT WE CONSIDER THAT THE PRESENT PROCEDURE IS CAPABLE OF IMPROVEMENT." SCHUETZ SAID THAT PARTICULAR AREAS WHERE CHANGES WERE DESIRABLE INCLUDED APPLICATION PROCEDURES INCLUDING POSSIBILITY FOR ENTRY PERMISSION TO BE GIVEN TO HOLDERS OF MULTIPLE VISIT FORMS DIRECTLY AT CROSSING POINT AND INCREASE IN PRESENT THREE MONTH VALIDITY OF THOSE MULTIPLE VISIT FORMS. SCHUETZ FURTHER IDENTIFIED RESTRICTIONS ON DOGS, MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS AS THINGS SENAT WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGED AND ADDED THAT "NATURALLY AN IMPROVEMENT IN GDR CUSTOMS REGULATIONS REMAINS SOMETHING DESIRABLE." SCHUETZ PROMISED NO INSTANT IMPROVEMENTS, HOWEVER, SAYING ONLY THAT "WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE."

3. ALLIES PROVIDED SENAT WITH AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS LIMITED IMPROVEMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF VISITS ARRANGEMENTS VIA BK/L AT END OF DECEMBER. IN DISCUSSION WITH SENAT LIAISON OFFICERS DECEMBER 30, CHIEF OF CHANCELLERY CONFIRMED THAT SENAT WILL LIMIT ITSELF TO MODEST PROPOSALS OUTLINED REF A AND THAT IT IS PREPARED TO BREAK OFF TALKS IF GDR MAKES UNACCEPTABLE POLITICAL DEMANDS OR SEEKS TO FORGE LINKAGE TO OTHER ISSUES SUCH AS S-BAHN. SENAT VISITS ARRANGEMENT PLENIPOTENTIARY KUNZE HAS NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS TO GDR OPPOSITE NUMBER MITDANK. WESTERN PRESS CARRIED STORIES SOME DAYS AGO, HOWEVER, CITING INFORMED SENAT SOURCES TO EFFECT THAT WHILE SENAT WOULD NATURALLY WISH TO OBTAIN MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS INCREASE IN NUMBER OF VISITS PERMITTED IN YEAR AND OPENING OF NEW CROSSING POINTS, SUCH THINGS WERE SIMPLY NOT IN CARDS, IN PART AT LEAST BECAUSE ALLIES HAD CAUTIONED AGAINST TOO BIG A SHOPPING LIST. SPD ALSO WENT ON RECORD AT ITS DECEMBER LANDESPARTEITAG AS FAVORING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE VISITS REGIME.

4. PARTLY PERHAPS TO REMIND BERLINERS THAT HOPED-FOR IMPROVEMENTS ARE NOT CRUCIAL AND TO FOREWARN GDR THAT SENAT WILL ACCORDINGLY NOT APPROACH ANY NEGOTIATION FROM POSITION THAT IT MUST ACHIEVE SUCCESS, SCHUETZ CONFIDENTIAL

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CITED STATISTICS IN COURSE OF PRESS CONFERENCE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT PRESENT SYSTEM IS WORKING WELL. GOVERNING MAYOR NOTED THAT GDR HAS TURNED DOWN ONLY 315 APPLICATIONS SINCE VISITS ARRANGMENT ENTERED INTO FORCE AND THAT 165 OF THESE APPLICATIONS WERE EVENTUALLY APPROVED AFTER SENAT TOOK MATTER UP IN JUNZE-MITDANK CHANNEL. SCHEUTZ ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SENAT PLENIPOTENTIARY KUNZE IS STILL SEEKING FAVORABLE ACTION ON OTHER

150 CASES. GOVERNING MAYOR SAID THAT WHILE SENAT  
RECEIVES AVERAGE OF ABOUT 82 COMPLAINTS EACH MONTH  
FROM BERLINERS OVER GDR BEHAVIOR IN SOME ASPECT OF  
VISITS REGIME, ONLY ABOUT SEVEN OF THESE ON AVERAGE  
ARE REGARDED AS SUFFICIENTLY GROUNDED TO BE TAKEN UP  
BY KUNZE. GOVERNING MAYOR ALSO NOTED THAT FIGURES  
FOR TURN-BACKS AND DETENTIONS IN BERLIN-FRG TRANSIT  
TRAVEL WERE ONLY 39 AND 125 RESPECTIVELY IN  
1975, DOWN FROM 61 AND 163 IN PREVIOUS YEAR.GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BERLIN ACCESS, VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRAVEL CONTROLS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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